3. (Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the control request is sent from the terminal to the telecommunications network using a text messaging service.

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the control code is sent from the telecommunications network to the external device using a text messaging service.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the external device is associated with or forms part of the terminal.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the terminal is coupled to the external device via a local wireless link.

7. (Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the control code is delivered to the external device via said terminal.

8. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the external device is remote from the terminal.

9. (Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein the external device comprises a telecommunications receiver.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the external device comprises a telecommunications receiver and the telecommunications receiver receives a text message containing said control code.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, in which the step of sending a control request to the telecommunications network comprises calling a service telephone number.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, in which the telecommunications network interacts with the terminal to select one of a plurality of predetermined control codes for sending to the external device.

13. (Amended) The method according to 12, in which the interaction is at least partly via a speech channel.

14. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, in which, in response to receipt of the control code, the external device sends a response comprising at least part of a text message to the telecommunications network.

15. (Amended) The method according to claim 14, in which the telecommunications network sends at least part of the response as at least part of a further text message to the terminal.

16. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:
        means for receiving a control request from a terminal;
        means for converting the request into a control code; and
        means for sending the control code to an external device.

17. (Amended) A telecommunications network comprising:
        means for converting a control request from a terminal to a control code; and
        means for sending the control code to an external device for controlling the
external device.

18. (Amended) The network according to claim 17, in which the control request includes an identifier identifying the terminal.

19. (Amended) The network according to claim 18, in which the sending means is

arranged to send the control code to a destination determined by the identifier.

20. (Amended) The network according to claim 17, in which the control code is predetermined and the sending means is arranged to send the control code in response to receipt of the service number.

21. (Amended) The network according to claim 17, comprising means for interacting with the terminal to select one of a plurality of predetermined control codes for sending to the external device.

22. (Amended) The network according to claim 21, in which the interacting means is arranged to interact with the terminal at least partly via a speech channel.

23. (Amended) The network according to claim 16, comprising a computer.

24. (Amended) A program for controlling a computer of a network to perform a method comprising the steps of:

sending a control request from a terminal to a telecommunications network;

converting the request into a control code; and

sending the control code from the telecommunications network to the external device.

25. (Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method comprising the steps of:

sending a control request from a terminal to a telecommunications network;

converting the request into a control code; and

sending the control code from the telecommunications network to the external device.